

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**Regen Projects II**  
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**SCOTT McFARLAND**

**May 23 – July 3, 2009**

**Gallery Hours: Tuesday–Saturday, 10:00 am – 6:00 pm**

**Opening Reception: Saturday, May 23, 6:00 – 8:00 pm**

Regen Projects is pleased to announce an exhibition of new work by Canadian artist **Scott McFarland**. This exhibition will feature new photographs including 3 large panorama works, smaller works from the “Hampstead” series, and introduce the new “Niagara” series.

**Scott McFarland’s** photography reconsiders the traditional concept of a photograph as the depiction of a single captured moment in time. Through digital means he is able to manipulate composition, color, light, space, shape, and form. **McFarland’s** photographs combine multiple negatives to represent simultaneous temporalities and interweave selected elements into a cohesive whole. Several different moments are packed into what appears to be one densely constructed instant. The photographs are meticulously crafted illusions created within the formal language of documentary photography.

**McFarland’s** consideration of photography and the built picture was brought about by the artist’s own understanding of the artificial “nature” found in built environments such as gardens and zoos. Taking the relationship of the constructed space/constructed image one step further, **McFarland** has photographed a modernist architectural landmark: the Berthold Lubetkin designed penguin pool at the London zoo. Through two very distinct works, **McFarland** investigates the elliptical structure of the famous penguin pool vis-à-vis the elliptical/arcing motion of his camera rotating on a tripod. One photograph is an objective color rendering where the camera has been left level while rotating; the other is a larger black and white version where the camera arcs along a non-level plane distorting and altering the curve of the structure from right to left.

The new square format photographs from **McFarland’s** “Niagara” series have a rough unfinished quality unlike any photographs he has taken to date. These softer focus images with odd shifts in light and glare are location studies for the large panorama *A Horse Drawn Hearse, Queens Royal Tours, 174 Anne, Niagara on the Lake, Ontario* (2009). This work depicts an old carriage business and its surroundings during the dead of Canadian winter. In this visually captivating work, a black funeral carriage contrasts against the white snow. The acreage, surrounded by newer suburban homes, evokes the question of how long can this structure resist the modern urban pressures it faces. These straight photographs presented alongside his precise digitally mastered compositions illustrate how the photographic process and the history of art and photography have always informed **McFarland’s** work.

“Over the last decade, **Scott McFarland** has produced bodies of work that engage with different aspects of photography...**McFarland’s** approach is both descriptive and metaphoric...The images, rich in cultural significance, express the complementary workings of conceptual and aesthetic factors all the while holding various characteristics of art and photography in ambiguous relation.”

(Andrea Kunard. **Scott McFarland: A Cultivated View**, published by the National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa, 2009, p. 12)

“**Scott McFarland: A Cultivated View**” is currently on view at the Canadian Museum of Contemporary Photography at the National Gallery of Canada through September 13, 2009. **McFarland** will have a solo exhibition at the Vancouver Art Gallery from October 3, 2009 – January 3, 2010. His photographs are included in a number of international collections including the Victoria and Albert Museum, London; Museum of Modern Art, New York; San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco; Walker Art Center, Minneapolis; and the Albright-Knox Museum, Buffalo.

An opening reception for **Scott McFarland** will take place on Saturday, May 23, from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. For further information please contact Jennifer Loh, Heather Harmon, or Stacy Bengtson at (310) 276-5424.

**Upcoming Exhibitions:**

**Lawrence Weiner: July 11 – August 15, 2009**